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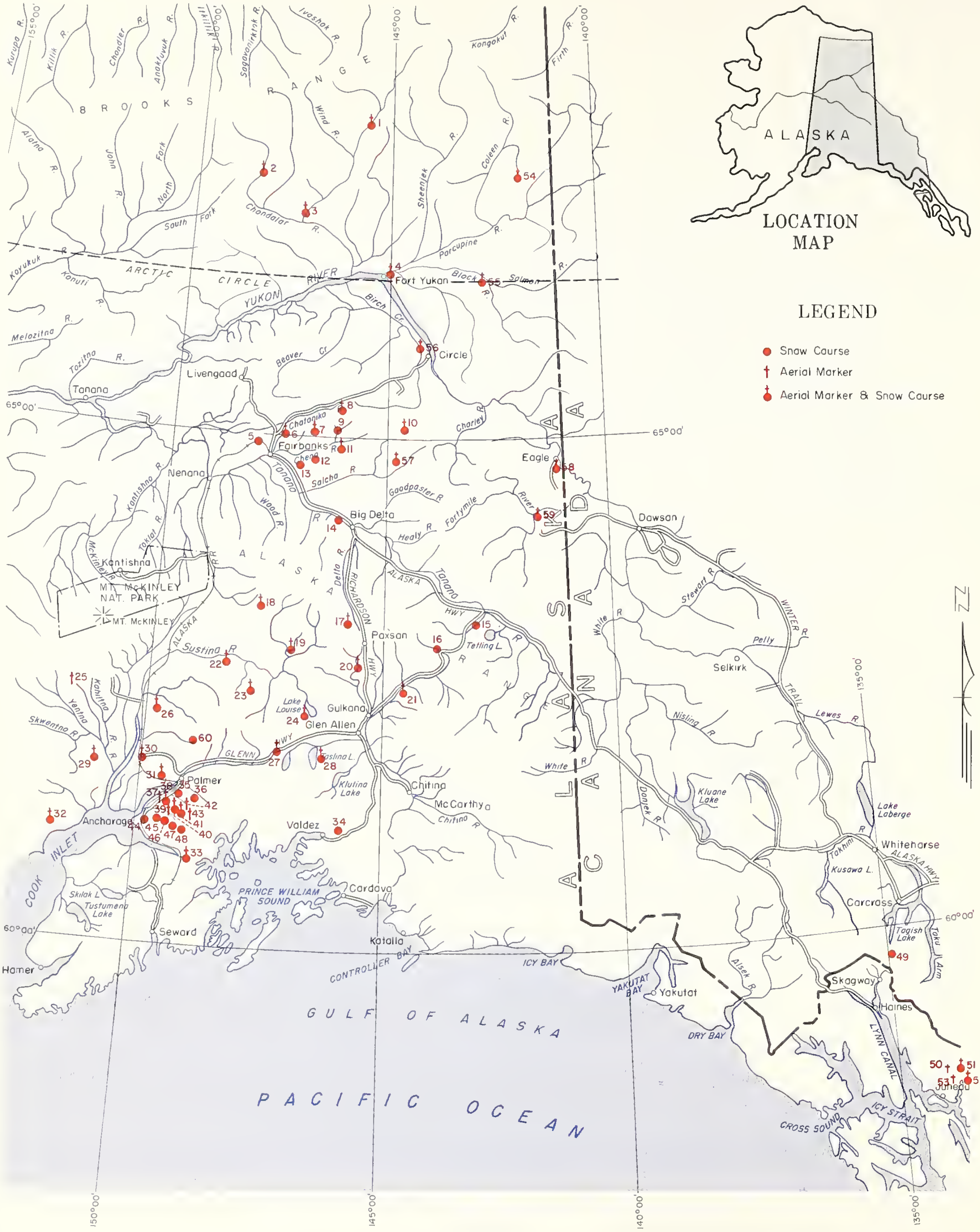
# COOPERATIVE SNOW SURVEYS for ALASKA

U. S. DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE , SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
and
ALASKA SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Data included in this report were obtained by the agencies named above in cooperation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Alaska Highway Dept., Alaska Department of Fish and Game and University of Alaska.

AS OF
APR. 1, 1965



# SNOW COURSES for ALASKA

50 0 50 100 150
SCALE IN MILES

M-3120-1 USDA SCS PORTLAND, OREG. 1960 7-O-16513-1

# SNOW SURVEYS
# for
# ALASKA

*Report Issued by*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
W. B. OLIVER, STATE CONSERVATIONIST
P. O. BOX F, PALMER, ALASKA

M-3120-2 USDA SCS PORTLAND OREG 1964

## INDEX OF ALASKA SNOW COURSES

| MAP NO. | COURSE NAME | COURSE NO. | ELEV. | MAP NO. | COURSE NAME | COURSE NO. | ELEV. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Arctic Village | 45TT1A | 2300 | 32 | McArthur | 51MM1A | 120 |
| 2 | Chandalar Lake | 48SS1A | 2040 | 33 | Twenty Mile | 48LL1A | 100 |
| 3 | Venetie | 46SS1A | 610 | 34 | Worthington Glacier | 45MM1 | 2400 |
| 4 | Fort Yukon | 45RR1A | 425 | 35 | Moraine | 48MM1A | 2100 |
| 5 | Yak Pasture | 47PP1 | 540 | 36 | Ptarmigan | 48MM2 | 3000 |
| 6 | Cleary Summit | 47QQ1A | 2230 | 37 | Glacier | 48MM3a | |
| 7 | Little Chena | 46QQ2A | 2200 | 38 | Grizzly | 48MM4A | 5000 |
| 8 | Mt. Ryan | 46QQ1A | 2950 | 39 | Sheep | 48MM5a | 2500 |
| 9 | Chena Hot Springs | 46QQ3 | 1180 | 40 | Bowl | 48MM6a | 4500 |
| 10 | Big Windy | 44QQ2A | 3850 | 41 | Goat | 48MM7A | 3200 |
| 11 | Munson Ridge | 46PP1A | 3100 | 42 | Marmot | 48MM8A | 2000 |
| 12 | Little Salch | 46PP3 | 1500 | 43 | Little Glacier | 48MM9a | 4000 |
| 13 | French Creek | 46PP2 | 2010 | 44 | Arctic Valley #1 | 49MM1 | 500 |
| 14 | Big Delta | 45PP1 | 975 | 45 | Arctic Valley #2 | 49MM2 | 1000 |
| 15 | Tok Junction | 43001 | 1650 | 46 | Arctic Valley #3 | 49MM3 | 2030 |
| 16 | Mentasta Pass | 43NN1 | 2430 | 47 | Arctic Valley #4 | 49MM4 | 2330 |
| 17 | Fielding Lake | 45001A | 3000 | 48 | Arctic Ski Bowl | 49MM5 | 3000 |
| 18 | Monahan Flat | 47001A | 2710 | 49 | Log Cabin (British Columbia) | 35KK1 | 2880 |
| 19 | Clearwater Lake | 46NN1A | 3100 | | | | |
| 20 | Haggard Creek | 45NN1A | 2540 | 50 | Upper Long Lake | 33JJ2a | 1000 |
| 21 | Chistochina | 44NN1A | 2170 | 51 | Long Lake | 33JJ1A | 1075 |
| 22 | Fog Lakes | 48NN1A | 2270 | 52 | Speel River | 33JJ3A | 275 |
| 23 | Oshetna Lake | 47NN1A | 2950 | 53 | Crater Lake | 33JJ4a | 1750 |
| 24 | Lake Louise | 46NN2A | 2400 | 54 | Coleen River | 42SS1A | 1100 |
| 25 | Chelatna Lake | 51NN1a | 1650 | 55 | Black River | 42RR1A | 650 |
| 26 | Bald Mtn. Lake | 49NN1A | 2150 | 56 | Circle City | 44QQ3A | 600 |
| 27 | Sheep Mountain | 45MM1 | 2700 | 57 | Caribou Mine | 45PP2A | 1115 |
| 28 | St. Anne's Lake | 46MM1A | 1985 | 58 | Eagle Village | 41PP1A | 900 |
| 29 | Alexander Lake | 50MM1A | 200 | 59 | Chicken Airstrip | 41PP2A | 1650 |
| 30 | Willow Airstrip | 50MM2A | 150 | 60 | Independence Mine | 49MM7 | 3300 |
| 31 | Wasilla Airstrip | 49MM6A | 350 | | | | |

# APRIL 1965

The unseasonal warm weather during the last two weeks of March has had a very marked effect on snow cover in Alaska. Several of the courses at low elevations have lost all their snow cover.

Southeast snow courses have lost some of their snow depth, but the total water content is only slightly lower than a month ago.

The Log Cabin snow course in British Columbia shows 2 inches lower snow depth than last year, with 4.2 more water content.

In general, there has been little change in water content of the Chena River snow courses since the March measurements, but these courses are all below the four-year average for April 1st.

Two of our oldest courses, namely, Sheep Mountain and Worthington Glacier, have the lowest snow depth and water content since they were established in 1958.

Snow in the Susitna Valley moose ranges has been lighter than in 1964, so there should be less winter loss from lack of browse.

# ALASKA SNOW SURVEYS

| DRAINAGE BASIN AND SNOW COURSE | MAP NO. | DATE OF SURVEY | SNOW DEPTH (INCHES) | WATER CONTENT (INCHES) | WATER CONTENT | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | LAST YEAR | AVERAGE * |
| Yukon Drainage: | Snow courses scheduled for reading April 14, 15 and 16th | | | | | |
| Log Cabin, B.C. | 49 | 4/1/65 | 46.5 | 15.1 | 10.9 | 12.3 |
| Tanana & Chena Drainage: | | | | | | |
| Yak Pasture | 5 | 4/4/65 | 8.6 | 2.6 | 3.0 | 3.7 |
| Cleary Summit | 6 | 4/3/65 | 22.3 | 4.3 | 4.3 | 6.2 |
| Little Chena | 7 | 4/3/65 | 14.9 | 4.0 | 4.1 | 5.1 |
| Mt. Ryan | 8 | 4/3/65 | 26.0 | 4.4 | 3.2 | 6.8 |
| Chena Hot Springs | 9 | 4/3/64 | 16.8 | 3.0 | 2.3 | 5.5 |
| Big Windy | 10 | 4/3/65 | 12.1 | 2.8 | 2.4 | 6.2 |
| Munson Ridge | 11 | 4/3/65 | 41.4 | 11.1 | 5.7 | 15.2 |
| Little Salcha | 12 | 3/31/65 | 11.2 | 3.1 | 3.8 | 5.3 |
| French Creek | 13 | 3/31/65 | 18.8 | 4.4 | 4.4 | 6.8 |
| Big Delta | 14 | 3/31/65 | No Snow | | No Snow | 1.9 |
| Tok | 15 | 3/30/65 | 10.2 | 2.2 | 3.1 | 3.2 |
| Mentasta Pass | 16 | 3/30/65 | 16.0 | 3.6 | 3.4 | 6.2 |
| Fielding Lake | 17 | 3/31/65 | 29.0 | 7.2 | 9.4 | 12.9 |
| Matanuska-Susitna Drainage: | | | | | | |
| ** Monahan Flat | 18 | 4/2/65 | 25.0 | | | |
| Clearwater Lake | 19 | 4/2/65 | 18.4 | 4.5 | 3.9 | 4.2 |
| ** Fog Lakes | 22 | 4/2/65 | 12.0 | | | |
| ** Oshetna Lake | 23 | 4/2/65 | 20.0 | | | |
| Lake Louise | 24 | 4/2/65 | 16.3 | 3.1 | 3.2 | 3.15 |
| ** Bald Mt. Lake | 26 | 4/1/65 | 27.0 | | | |
| Sheep Mountain | 27 | 3/31/65 | 12.2 | 3.5 | 3.9 | 4.4 |
| ** Alexander Lake | 29 | 4/1/65 | 24.0 | | | |
| Willow Airstrip | 30 | 4/1/65 | 13.5 | 3.8 | 6.1 | 5.0 |
| Copper River Drainage: | | | | | | |
| ** Haggard Creek | 20 | 4/2/65 | 18.0 | | | |
| ** Chistochina | 21 | 4/2/65 | 20.0 | | | |
| St.Anne's Lake | 22 | 4/2/65 | 10.9 | 3.0 | 7.6 | 5.3 |
| Coastal Drainage: | | | | | | |
| ** McArthur | 32 | 4/1/65 | 60 | | | |
| ** Twenty Mile | 33 | 4/1/65 | 6.0 | | | |
| Worthington Glacier | 34 | 3/31/65 | 39.2 | 13.3 | 25.7 | 21.9 |
| Moraine | 35 | 3/19/65 | 30.9 | 7.0 | 6.3 | 9.4 |
| Ptarmigan | 36 | 3/19/65 | 34.3 | 8.6 | 7.2 | 9.6 |
| Grizzly | 38 | 3/19/65 | 57.5 | 21.9 | 25.5 | 22.3 |
| Goat | 41 | 3/19/65 | 52.8 | 16.5 | 17.2 | 18.5 |
| Marmot | 42 | 3/19/65 | 28.5 | 9.6 | 22.5 | 17.9 |
| Arctic Valley #1 | 44 | 3/31/65 | No Snow | | 4.5 | - |
| Arctic Valley #2 | 45 | 3/31/65 | No Snow | | 2.8 | |
| Arctic Valley #3 | 46 | 3/31/65 | 21.1 | 5.4 | 4.5 | 5.0 |
| Arctic Valley #4 | 47 | 3/31/65 | 23.2 | 3.9 | 5.7 | 4.8 |
| Arctic Ski Bowl | 48 | 3/31/65 | 42.4 | 16.1 | 9.5 | 12.8 |

** Aerial Markers

*(*) Average for Period of Record*

M-3120-3 USDA SCS PORTLAND OREG 1964

# ALASKA SNOW SURVEYS

| DRAINAGE BASIN AND SNOW COURSE | MAP NO. | DATE OF SURVEY | SNOW DEPTH (INCHES) | WATER CONTENT (INCHES) | WATER CONTENT | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | LAST YEAR | AVERAGE * |
| Snettisham Drainage: | | | | | | |
| Upper Long Lake | 50 | 4/1/65 | 63.0 | 28.0 | | |
| Long Lake | 51 | 4/1/65 | 91.0 | 34.0 | | |
| Speel River | 52 | 4/1/65 | 73.0 | 31.0 | | |
| Crater Lake | 53 | 4/1/65 | 112.0 | 37.0 | | |
| Chena Watershed Aerial Markers Read 3/16/65<br>Water content referenced to Cleary Summit ground measurements: | | | | | | |
| Cleary Summit | 6 | 3/17/65 | 20.3 | 3.81 | | |
| **Little Chena | 7 | 3/16/65 | 18.0 | 3.37 | | |
| **Mount Ryan | 8 | 3/16/65 | 17.0 | 3.18 | | |
| **Big Windy | 10 | 3/16/65 | 6.0 | 1.12 | | |
| **Munson Ridge | 11 | 3/16/65 | 38.0 | 7.11 | | |

** Aerial Markers

(*) Average for Period of Record

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
P.O. BOX F, PALMER, ALASKA

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